

REMARKS

Claim 1-12 have been examined in the present application. Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the admitted prior art in view of Shioka et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,257,262, hereinafter 'Shioka'). Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 have been amended hereby. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 explicitly requires "a control terminal for inputting signal identification data, wherein input signal identification content in the signal identification means **is capable of being changed according to the signal identification data.**" (emphasis added)

Claim 2 explicitly requires "a control terminal for inputting a FAX data demodulation control signal, wherein demodulation control content outputted from the FAX data allotment control means to the **FAX data demodulation processing means is changed according to the FAX data demodulation control signal.**" (emphasis added)

Claim 7 explicitly requires "a control terminal for inputting signal identification data is provided on a transmitting side and wherein input signal identification content in the signal identification means **is capable of being changed according to the signal identification data.**" (emphasis added)

Claim 8 explicitly requires that a "control terminal for inputting a FAX data demodulation control signal is provided on a transmitting side, **the FAX data demodulation is controlled according to the FAX data demodulation control signal.**" (emphasis added)

Applicant respectfully submits that these features of the present invention are neither taught nor suggested by either the admitted prior art, Shioka or the combination thereof.

In paragraphs 4 of the Office Action, it is admitted that the “prior art does not explicitly teach the transmission side is provided with a control terminal for inputting signal identification data, and input signal identification content in the signal identification means is capable of being changed according to the signal identification data.” However, in paragraph 6 of the Office Action, it is argued that “it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the assignment request generator (25) of Shioka et al. as a means to change input signal identification content of the transmission side of admitted prior art.” Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Shioka is directed towards “a digital circuit multiplexing equipment unit which is capable of processing a wide variety of input information signals at a high speed.” (See Shioka column 1, lines 62-66). In Shioka, when the assignment request generator 25 detects a new assignment, the assignment request generator 25 produces control signal CO which represents the input channel number at which the new assignment request takes place. (See Shioka column 6, lines 8-15). However, Shioka’s assignment request generator (25) is not “a means to change input signal identification content of the transmission side,” as stated in paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

Shioka’s assignment request generator (25) has nothing whatsoever to do with the identification of input signals. Instead, it is Shioka’s channel status detector 13 generates a detection signal that is representative of each state of the input channels.

(Shioka column 3, lines 24-29). While channel status detector 13 identifies the input signal, it is not “a means to change input signal identification content of the transmission side,” as stated in paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

Shioka’s assignment request generator 25 and channel status detector 13 are not capable of identifying or distinguishing facsimile (FAX) signals other than the single format ITU-T G.766. Without a control terminal and a control information setup circuit, it is not possible for Shioka to demodulate and re-modulate a signal other than a fixed FAX signal defined by ITU-T G.766. In contrast to Shioka’s system, Applicant’s invention identifies signals using a signal identification means whose content “**is capable of being changed** according to the signal identification data,” as explicitly recited in claims 1 and 7. (emphasis added). For this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 7 over the admitted prior art in view of Shioka is respectfully requested

Claim 2 explicitly requires “a control terminal for inputting a FAX data demodulation control signal, demodulation control content outputted from the FAX data allotment control means to the FAX data demodulation processing means **is changed according to the FAX data demodulation control signal.**” (Emphasis added).

As discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 7, Shioka’s assignment request generator 25 is not capable of changing the demodulation control content according to the FAX data demodulation control signal. For this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 over the admitted prior art in view of Shioka is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 explicitly requires a "control terminal for inputting a FAX data demodulation control signal is provided on a transmitting side, **the FAX data demodulation is controlled according to the FAX data demodulation control signal.**" (Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that, as discussed above with regards to claims 1 and 7, Shioka's assignment request generator 25 is not capable of controlling the FAX data demodulation according to the FAX data demodulation control signal. For this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 over the admitted prior art in view of Shioka is respectfully requested.

Dependent claims 3, 4, 5 and 6 are dependent upon independent claims 1. As such, they include all of the limitations of either base claim 1. As a result, all of the above arguments regarding independent claims 1 apply equally to dependent claims 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Dependent claims 9, 10, 11, and 12 are dependent upon independent claim 2. As such, they include all of the limitations of base claim 2. As a result, all of the above arguments regarding independent claims 2 apply equally to dependent claims 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-12 on the basis of the admitted prior art in view of Shioka is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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